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LB 99

recommendation of the committee amendments, she noted her hesitation was the fact that we took out the LMNTs out of this bill, which...who are the licensed medical nutrition therapists, because that was part of the thing with the insurance company. They wanted to make...they wanted to have a quality assurance on this whole procedure of providing the nutrition education. So they wanted it certified by the American Diabetic Association and that's what we went along with. But that's the way I understand it anyway, Senator Hartnett, and I don't believe they have any problems now with this bill. I think they're okay.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Okay, thank you very much, Senator Schimek.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Hartnett. Discussion on the advancement of LB 99? Senator Landis. There being no further discussion, Senator Schimek, would you like to close on the advancement of LB 99?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, thank you, members of the body, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. I would like to thank everybody who participated in the discussion this morning and I wasn't having a senile moment awhile ago when I referred to Senator Landis as Dr. Landis. I think people thought I was kind of going nuts up here, but the fact of the matter is he impersonated a doctor this weekend on the occasion of Vard Johnson's 60th birthday party, and so I just wanted to make reference to that on the mike this morning. This is a, I think, a very good bill. It has been worked on tirelessly by a number of people, including the insurance industry, and I particularly would like to single out maybe Blue Cross/Blue Shield, who's been very helpful in working on this particular bill and working out the problems with it. I do think that it is going to enable people to access that nutrition education and I believe right now the average visit that you have with a physician is probably 15 minutes at best, and you cannot get the kind of education you need in that period of time. In addition to that, Dr. Wermers, who testified at the committee hearing, indicated that many physicians have no idea what the difference is between different "encrometers phonetic", which I have no idea either, what an insulin pump is, who is appropriate for an insulin pump, what a diabetic diet is, and the deficiencies in our knowledge, as physicians, goes on and on, he said. We're not trained in that